

Muhyiddin refutes human rights report
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Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin has refuted a report on the human rights situation in Malaysia, saying the matter should be assessed fairly.

He said the government was constantly improving its approach towards various human rights issues, including pertaining to religion.

"We have done our best," he told reporters after attending a meet-the-people session at Assyakirin Mosque in Bintulu today.

He said that often times, the country's human rights performance were assessed based on perception and this caused misconception.

The Human Rights Watch in its report said Malaysia had turned its back on its promises to protect people's rights.

The report also claimed that the government harassed the opposition, improperly restricted the right to peaceful expression, association, and assembly and mistreated migrants.

Meanwhile, in his speech at the event, Muhyiddin said he would help in the construction of an orphanage for all races in Bintulu.

He did not say how much allocation would be provided but said that the government fully supported the project in line with the 1Malaysia concept.

The project was launched last year and has received about RM500,000 allocation from the state government but is still waiting for additional fund before construction can start.

- *Bernama*

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